

A POURING AND SEALING ATTACHMENT

TECHNICAL FIELD

- 5 This invention relates to a new pouring and sealing attachment of the kind adapted to be mounted on a can and, more particularly, a paint can, but not limited thereto.

BACKGROUND ART

- 10 Paint can attachments are well known for a variety of purposes. There are two broad types of paint pouring attachments, including a clip on spout, which facilitates pouring only, and a decanting spout which is usually formed as part of a container lid (e.g. as used with automotive tints). However, they must be removed to reseal the container, and the stacking of containers with a spout is not possible.

- 15 Paint can attachments may also function as a brush wiper for removing excess paint from the brush after it has been dipped into the paint and usually also facilitates the outpouring of paint from the can.

- 20 However, most known attachments suffer from the disadvantage that they must be detached from the can to facilitate reclosing thereof which is necessary to prevent the deterioration of any remaining paint and to prevent the ingress of contaminants. This step is time consuming and can be very messy.

- 25 The prior art is represented by Australian Patent Nos. 737661 and 638039; US Patent Nos. 4,724,979; 5,975,346 and 6,360,909; and International Patent Publication Nos. WO 02/49931 and WO 95/15861. All of these prior art publications disclose containers with hinged lids which have inherent design faults which restrict their use in the sealing and resealing of fluid products (liquids or powders).

- 30 It is therefore an object of the present invention to provide an alternative pouring and sealing attachment for a container, such as a paint can or other similar can, which overcomes or at

least ameliorates the above disadvantages of the prior art, or at least provides a clear alternative choice for consumers.

#### DISCLOSURE OF THE INVENTION

- 5 According to one embodiment of the invention there is provided a pouring attachment adapted to be mounted on an annular rim of a can and which receives a lid allowing sealing and re-sealing of said can with said lid, said pouring attachment including an outer annular rim defining an annular space and inner circumferential wall against which lid sealingly abuts and lid retaining means for releasably securing the lid in the annular space for sealing and  
10 resealing of the can. The invention also relates to containers which include a pouring attachment of the type described.

The lid is a purpose-built lid for the pouring attachment, ideally integrally moulded therewith from solvent-resistant plastics material. Preferably, the lid is hinged to the can in such a  
15 manner that it hinges from the closed position to the open position(s) with the aid of an inbuilt cam and cam follower means. This is preferably supplemented by one or more other clips peripherally spaced about the rim of the pouring attachment to securely hold the lid in sealing engagement with the rim of the pouring attachment.

- 20 Preferably, the lid includes means whereby the lid may be propped open substantially perpendicular (from about 80° to about 90° to the plane of the outer rim of the pouring attachment, to facilitate self-draining of paint from the underside of the lid back into the main paint container.

- 25 Preferably, the outer rim of the pouring attachment incorporates a forwardly or outwardly extending pouring spout and a brush-wipe edge extending radially inwardly towards the central annular space of the pouring attachment.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE ACCOMPANYING DRAWINGS

The invention will be further described with reference to the accompanying drawings relating to some non-limiting embodiments of the invention:-

- 5    FIG. 1    is a top perspective view of a container, such as a paint can, according to one embodiment of the present invention wherein the upper end closure of the can includes a pouring attachment with integral spout and a hinged lid for sealing/re-sealing of the container, and hinged lid retaining clips. The peripheral groove on the upper outer surface of the lid facilitates stackability or nesting;
- 10    FIG. 2    is a top perspective view of the container of Fig. 1 with the lid hinged in the open position;
- 15    FIG. 3    is a cross-sectioned side elevational view of the container of Fig. 2, with the lid in the open position;
- FIG. 4    is a cross-sectioned side elevational view of the container of Fig. 1, with the lid in the closed position;
- 20    FIG. 5    is a top plan or top elevational view of upper end closure of Figs. 1-4, with the lid hinged fully open;
- FIG. 6    is a side elevational view of the closure of Fig. 5;
- 25    FIG. 7    is a cross-sectioned side elevational view of the closure of Fig. 6;
- FIG. 8    is a cross-sectioned side elevational view through the hinge of Fig. 5;
- 30    FIG. 9    is an enlarged cross-sectioned elevational view through a typical section of the upper rim of the container and upper end closure in the closed position.

FIG. 10 is an enlarged cross-sectional elevation view through a section of the upper rim of the container with the upper end closure hinged in the open position.

5 FIG. 11 is a top perspective view of two containers according to an embodiment of the invention, demonstrating vertical stackability.

In the drawings, the following legend applies to the use of reference numerals.

10 LEGEND

- 1. Container with closure (e.g. paint can)
- 2. Container
- 3. Upper end closure
- 15 4. Annular rim
- 5. Lid
- 5a. Pouring spout
- 6. Spout cover
- 7. Clip
- 20 8. Clip engagement lug
- 9. Hinge
- 10. Annular groove
- 11. Base rim
- 12. Handle
- 25 13. Handle hinge
- 14. Upper face of lid (with brand logo)
- 15. Annular opening
- 16. Inner rim
- 17. Sealing flange
- 30 18. Draining rim of flange